

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A fuel cell system comprising:

a fuel cell which generates electric power from a fuel gas and an oxidizing agent gas;

a fuel gas supplying means which supplies the ~~[[said]] fuel gas to~~ into the said fuel cell
~~on the an anode side of the fuel cell thereof;~~

an oxidizing agent gas supplying means which supplies the ~~[[said]] oxidizing agent gas~~
to into the said fuel cell on the a cathode side of the fuel cell thereof;

a raw material gas supplying means which supplies a raw material gas ~~of raw material~~
to be used in the production of the ~~[[said]] fuel gas to the~~ into the said fuel cell; and

a control means which controls the ~~[[said]] fuel gas supplying means, the~~ ~~[[said]]~~
~~oxidizing agent gas supplying means and the~~ ~~[[said]] raw material gas supplying means,~~ ~~wherein~~
~~the said control means controls~~ such that during the starting of electricity generation of the
~~[[said]] fuel cell, such that the~~ ~~[[said]] raw material gas supplying means purges the said fuel cell~~
at least ~~[[on]] the cathode side thereof with the~~ ~~[[said]] raw material gas before the fuel gas~~
supplying means and the ~~[[said]] oxidizing agent gas supplying means and the said fuel gas~~
supplying means supply the ~~[[said]] fuel gas and the~~ ~~[[said]] oxidizing agent gas to~~ ~~[[into]] the~~
~~[[said]] fuel cell, respectively.~~

2. (Currently amended) The fuel cell system according to Claim 1, wherein the
~~[[said]] raw material gas supplying means purges the interior of the said fuel cell on the anode~~
~~side thereof~~ inside the fuel cell after purging ~~[[on]] the~~ ~~[[said]] cathode side thereof.~~

3. (Currently amended) The fuel cell system according to Claim 1 or 2, further comprising:

a fuel gas pipe disposed between the ~~[[said]]~~ fuel gas supplying means and the ~~said fuel cell battery on the cathode side thereof~~;

a fuel gas on-off valve disposed along the ~~[[said]]~~ fuel gas pipe;

an oxidizing agent gas pipe disposed between the ~~[[said]]~~ oxidizing agent gas supplying means and ~~the said fuel cell on the anode side thereof~~;

an oxidizing agent gas on-off valve disposed along the ~~[[said]]~~ oxidizing agent gas pipe;

a raw material gas pipe connected to ~~the said raw material gas supplying means and a part of the~~ ~~[[said]]~~ oxidizing agent gas pipe disposed between the raw material gas supplying means and a portion between the ~~[[said]]~~ oxidizing agent gas on-off valve and ~~the said fuel cell on the cathode side thereof~~; and

a raw material gas on-off valve disposed along the ~~[[said]]~~ raw material gas pipe.

4. (Currently amended) The fuel cell system according to Claim 3, further comprising: ~~wherein~~ a cathode side exhaust pipe through which an off-gas discharged from ~~the said fuel cell on the cathode side thereof~~ is discharged, and

a cathode side off-gas on-off valve disposed along the ~~[[said]]~~ cathode side exhaust pipe,

~~[[and]]~~ wherein the ~~[[said]]~~ purge is carried out by opening the ~~[[said]]~~ cathode side off-gas on-off valve, opening the ~~[[said]]~~ raw material gas on-off valve for a predetermined period of time and then closing the ~~[[said]]~~ raw material gas on-off valve.

5. (Currently amended) The fuel cell system according to Claim 4, further comprising:
~~wherein there are provided~~ an additional raw material gas pipe connected to ~~the said raw material~~
~~gas supplying means and~~ a part of the [[said]] raw material gas pipe disposed between the raw
material gas supplying means and a portion between the [[said]] fuel gas on-off valve and the
~~said fuel cell on the anode side thereof;~~ ;

an additional raw material gas on-off valve disposed along the [[said]] additional raw
material gas pipe[[,]];

an anode side exhaust pipe through which an off-gas discharged from the [[said]] fuel
cell on the anode side ~~thereof~~ is discharged; and

an anode side off-gas on-off valve disposed along the [[said]] anode side exhaust pipe,
[[and]]

wherein the [[said]] purge is carried out by opening the [[said]] raw material gas on-off
valve, opening the [[said]] anode side off-gas on-off valve, and then opening the [[said]]
additional raw material gas on-off valve for a predetermined period of time.

6. (Currently amended) The fuel cell system according to Claim 5, wherein the
operation of the fuel gas supplying means and the [[said]] oxidizing agent gas supplying means
~~and the said fuel gas supplying means~~ of supplying the [[said]] fuel gas and the [[said]] oxidizing
agent gas to [[into]] the [[said]] fuel cell is carried out by opening the [[said]] anode side off-gas
on-off valve, opening the [[said]] fuel gas on-off valve, opening the [[said]] cathode side off-gas
on-off valve, and then opening the [[said]] oxidizing agent gas on-off valve.

7. (Currently amended) A method of starting a fuel cell system comprising a fuel cell which generates electric power from a fuel gas and an oxidizing agent gas, a fuel gas supplying means which supplies the fuel gas to an anode side of the fuel cell, and an oxidizing agent gas supplying means which supplies ~~[[an]]~~ the oxidizing agent gas ~~[[into]]~~ to a cathode side of the ~~[[said]]~~ fuel cell, comprising: ~~and a fuel supplying means which supplies the said fuel gas into the said fuel cell, wherein the said fuel cell~~ a step of purging, during the starting of electricity generation of the fuel cell, at least ~~[[on]]~~ the cathode side ~~thereof is purged~~ with a raw material gas to be used in the production of the ~~[[said]]~~ fuel gas before the ~~[[said]]~~ fuel gas and the ~~[[said]]~~ oxidizing agent gas are supplied ~~[[into]]~~ to the ~~[[said]]~~ fuel cell ~~during the starting of electricity generation of the said fuel cell.~~

8. (Currently amended) The method of starting a fuel cell system according to Claim 7, wherein ~~the interior of the said fuel cell on the~~ ~~[[said]]~~ anode side ~~thereof~~ inside the fuel cell is purged after purging ~~[[on]]~~ the ~~[[said]]~~ cathode side ~~[[said]]~~.

9. (Currently amended) A program of computer-controlling a step of purging, during the starting of electricity generation of the fuel cell, ~~the said fuel cell~~ at least ~~[[on]]~~ the cathode side ~~thereof~~ with a raw material gas to be used in the production of the ~~[[said]]~~ fuel gas before the ~~[[said]]~~ fuel gas and the ~~[[said]]~~ oxidizing agent gas are supplied ~~[[into]]~~ to the ~~[[said]]~~ fuel cell, ~~during the starting of electricity generation of the said fuel cell~~ in the method of starting a fuel cell system according to Claim 7.

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10. (Original) A recording medium carrying a program according to Claim 9 which can be processed by a computer.